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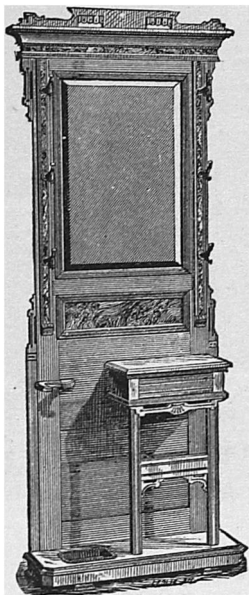
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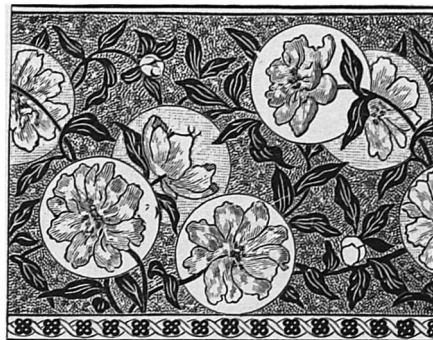
Draperies, etc.—HENRY J. HART & SON, say that cretonne is selling at a remarkable rate. Some of the most elaborate Watteau designs are pictured, the pictures covering a considerable part of the cretonne, and giving the details of really attractive and elegant rural or classical scenes. So far as hangings are concerned, the popular thing for inside window hanging is scrim; this often has figures worked upon it in colored crewels, but the merest outlines are shown. There are Syrian curtains of soft, cream-colored muslin worked in old gold silks, some of these hang singly at a window opening, and are caught or held back by bands of Roman sheeting or old gold colored India silk ribbon. Lahore satin is used for draping mirrors, and is not out of place as mantel valances. The striped material is being discarded and the single color is taking its place, the one solid shade, and without any added decoration, nothing appliquéd or attached to the curtain itself. Never was it more popular than at present to hang the walls of an apartment, and when this is done the color of the wall, portieres and window drapery should be similar. If it is desired to decorate the hangings velveteen is, perhaps, one of the best materials that can be had, it is readily worked and more easily handled than many of the other heavy materials. There has been more or less of an attempt to introduce the short hangings that come down only half way to the floor, thus leaving an opening through which to look into the next room; some of these hangings have been put up, but as yet they have not been generally received. Another comparatively new feature is hangings of two shades of the same material, they often have a very handsome effect, and if the point of joining between the pieces is concealed or covered by a band of some third color the transition of shade seems less violent. There is no doubt if the majority of persons who indulge in hangings could afford tapestry, they would have it, at least the demand for the imitation gives that impression. The sale of the modern cheap tapestry is really remarkable, especially in view of its marked deficiency in beauty or spirit.

Fancy Furniture.—H. B. HERTS & SONS have a great variety of rosewood furniture and they say this will be the popular wood in the coming season, and the Renaissance will be the appropriate style. The gigantic and monstrous heads and figures of this particular form of furniture and decoration, are most attractive and effective, and in their present revival they are used to an almost unlimited extent. This firm shows a number of tables and chairs that have upon them the most extravagant figures of this character. Ebony is not so much used as we have seen it heretofore, and appears to be losing the hold it has now upon popular taste. Mahogany is not appreciably disturbed, though it cannot be doubted that rosewood will very soon assume the first place in the favor of the people generally. Mahogany and oak for library suits are preferred. Chairs for dining rooms are upholstered in embossed morocco, which is colored a great variety of shades, and shows a still larger diversity of patterns, the hammered or alligator design is seemingly most used. Tables have wooden tops almost without exception, marble and plush have gone out of fashion, though a comparatively new material for this purpose is shown, which is tiles of Longwy ware which are well adapted to the tops of small stands.

Window Blinds.—WILLIAM MORSTATT has a new feature in the shape of a window blind that appears to be an improvement of considerable advantage over those blinds to which we have been accustomed. The improvement rests almost entirely in the ease with which the slats are moved and opened at any degree desired. These slats are provided with small metal pins at either end, which are fixed into the frame work, and being in no danger of shrinkage and very little of breaking, they retain the slats in a permanently secure position. The opening and closing is regulated by a knob attached to a moveable beading at one side of the frame doing away thus with the long used centre rod. The slats may be turned in either direction and closed so tightly that no light will be admitted. The blind altogether seems to be an admirably devised and most perfect addition to house fitting.

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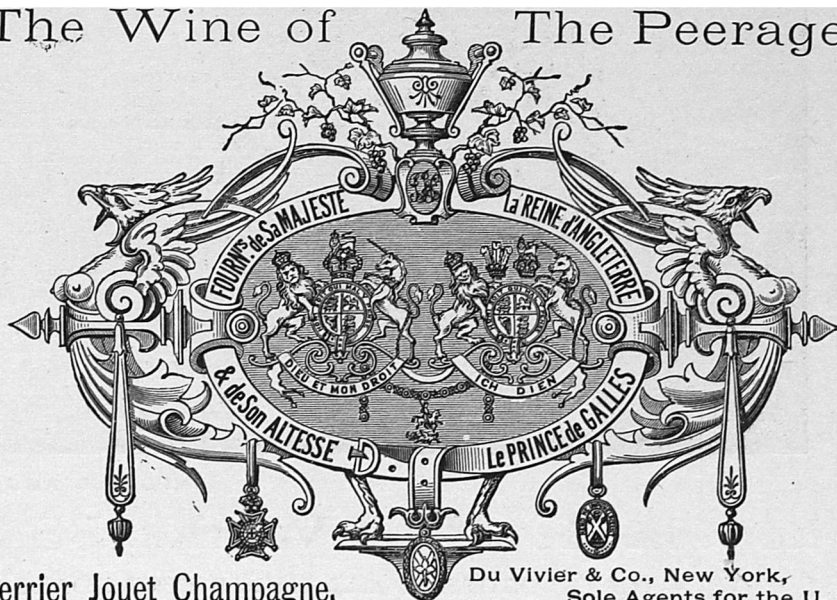
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Mantels.—T. B. STEWART & Co. show a
mantel made for a gentleman at Cooperstown,
N. Y., that certainly demands more than a mere
cursor examination. It is entirely of mahog-
any very handsomely and tastefully carved; the
grate opening is about five feet high, above
which a centre panel bears a carved canoe pro-
pelled by The Deerslayer, whose companion, a
most life like dog, stands in the bow ready to
jump upon a deer that is swimming ahead.
The water and the background, without taking
into consideration the figures, are admirable in
their effect. Upon either side of this panel is a
smaller square one bearing an Indian wampum,
the beads being most faithfully and naturally
brought out. Above these panels a shelf like
projection is the support and beginning of a
peaked roof admirably shingled in mahogany,
and bearing a chimney which is decorated with a
figure of Leatherstocking, the work being the
same careful, skilful, delicate carving as that
upon the panel. The total height of the piece
is twelve feet. Antique designs in furniture
and coverings of antique tapestries are very ex-
tensively made and shown by this house. Ger-
man Renaissance sideboards and mantels are
particularly rich, and made in ebonized cherry
they have a solid and mediæval appearance
that is certainly attractive. A new overmantel
in the early American style is one of the newest
we have seen. The shelf has rounded corners,
and near the centre delicate posts supporting a
smaller shelf above, both being protected by a
slender railing. A panel like mirror is above
the lower shelf.

Elevators.—CLEM & MORSE have many
improvements in elevators and have found it
advisable to make a specialty of fitting them
up to conform with the decoration of the
house in which they are to be placed. The
safety attachments close the hatchway at each
floor after the elevator has passed, and in event
of any accident happening to the rope or the
machinery, stop the descent of the elevator.

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HARD WOOD FLOORS has created a demand for
a Finish that would not scratch and become defaced
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**THE BOSTON POLISH OR HARD WAX
FINISH**, which has been thoroughly tested for
several years, fills the bill exactly. It makes a beautiful
finish for interior wood work of all kinds. It is the
simplest, cheapest and most durable finish known for
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Office, 171 1/2 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.
In Cans of 1 lb., 75 cts.; 2 lbs. \$1.25; and 4 lbs., \$2.50.

Slate Mantels.—CHARLES B. KLINE advises
us that slate mantels have become so popular
that business in that especial line is almost un-
precedented. The manner of finishing the
mantels now made is far better than anything
that has been done heretofore. The many
beauties of slate, its color, its diverse streaks
and veins, make it one of the most attractive
materials for this sort of work, and the great
variety of styles in which it can be made up is
no slight recommendation for it among a people
who have a variety of tastes, and seek new ef-
fects in comparatively new material. Pieces of
vari-colored slate have beautiful green panels
extending under the shelf; these panels are
substituted in other instances by mottled slabs
that bear all the colors of the spectrum, while
others still have a delicate pink tint. The body
work is often in the natural color of the slate
then black, purplish, reddish, and so on through
a great number of shades and tints. Columns
of some lighter tinted marble than that making
up the body work, are highly polished and
stand at either side of the shelf which they sup-
port. These columns are double and single
and usually finished with some degree of orna-
ment. Tiles for the hearth are very generally
employed and they make a clear and clean
floor ornament.

Furnishings.—DUNCAN, JOHNSON & FEN-
TON, have a most thorough display of small
decorative articles, bric-a-brac and knick-knacks.
A glass fire screen has a mahogany frame, and the
glass is decorated with a monogram in the centre,
having a wreath and radiating vines extending
from and around it. Upon a table are a
number of small mirrors, shaped like palettes,
and their services as reflecting glasses some-
what interfered with by a painted vine or
flower at one side. But the real mirrors, those
made for their own proper use and no other,
have velvet frames with leather fruit and min-
ature branches, bunches of grapes and the like,
attached to them. A very neat sachet bag is

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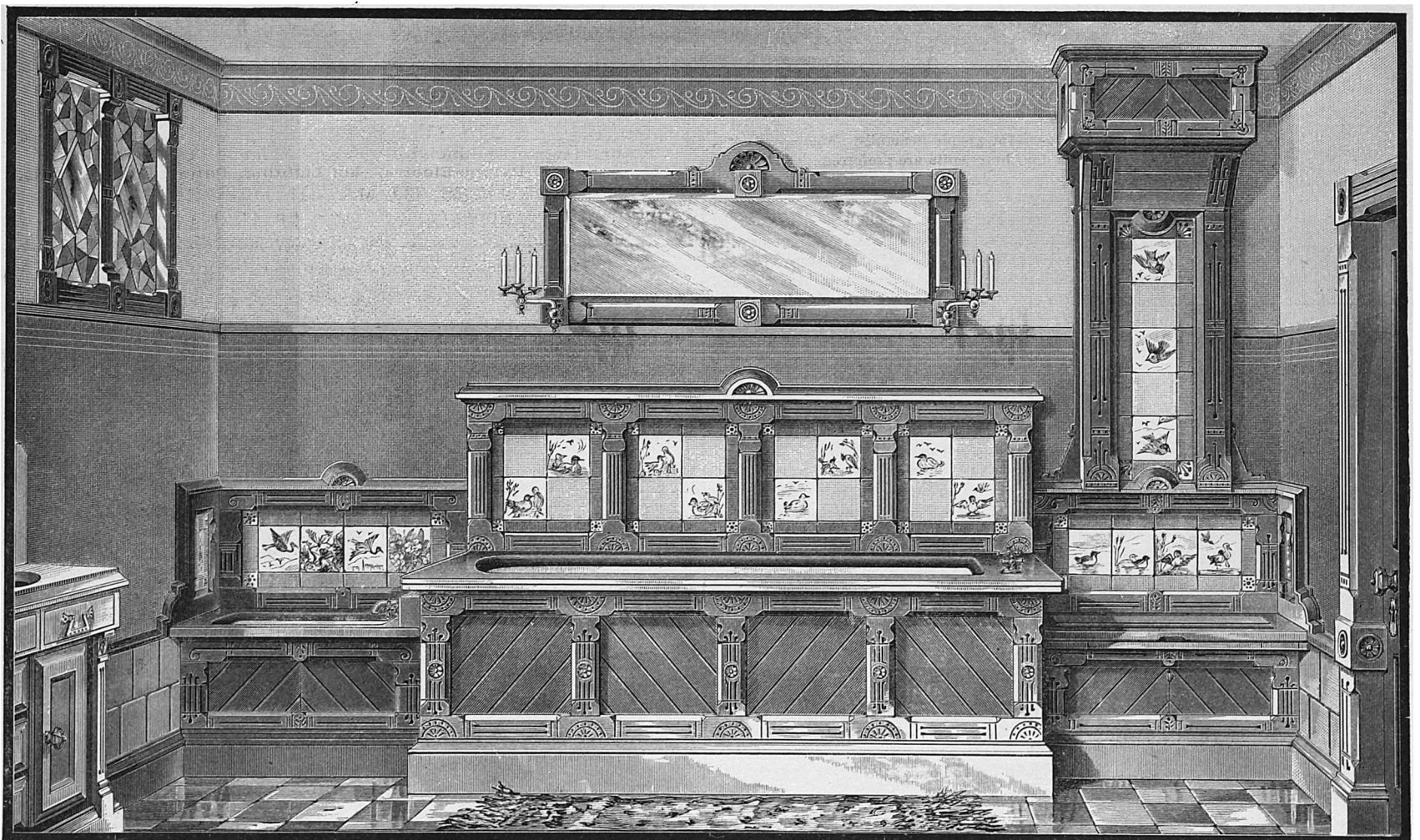
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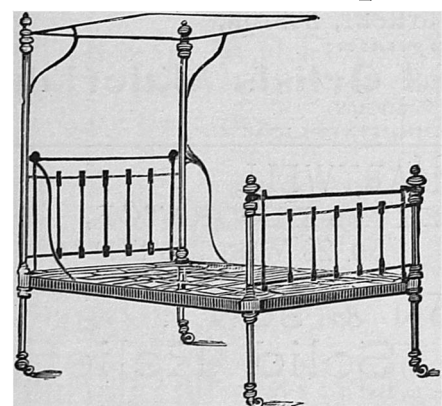
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shown, imitating a handkerchief folded over and each corner brought into the centre, where a large silver or gold pin pierces the entire thing, holding them all in place apparently and adding to the ornamental feature by having upon its head a large spider in German silver. A draped toilet table concealing a multitude of useful stowaway places, is also here. It is square with curtains of prettily figured cretonne falling to the ground upon every side; the side curtains being lifted disclose a series of pockets attached to a thin board background, and these pockets designed for shoes, slippers, etc; the front curtain drawn away shows an open space between these two sideboards fitted with a shelf to receive handboxes or hats; it is needless to say that this article has the merit of being wonderfully handy and convenient and it may be of home make.

Wall Decoration.—W. NEILSON & SON have introduced a novelty for the decoration of walls and ceilings. The principle is in attaching to the wall or ceiling surface a series of ornaments or figures entirely disconnected with each other, and placed independently in their respective positions. The figures are molded in gelatine, and the gelatine mold, with the composition of which the figures are made within it, is pressed against the surface made to receive it, after being so held and pressed for a few moments, the mold is gradually removed and the cement contents are left in its place shaped after the pattern of the mold. This cement is, of course, painted in various colors to conform with the tastes of the artist and the fitting of the apartment. The diversity of designs is certainly extreme and practically unlimited, and the degree of display or plainness depends entirely upon the disposition of the decorator.

Lustra Painting.—The taste for decorated textiles, in embroidery or painting, has brought to notice many phases of domestic art that were either lost sight of or entirely obsolete, and likewise many that are entirely new. The painted textiles especially are in favor, and the recent exhibition at Howell & James showed what a degree of perfection amateurs may attain. Among the several modes of treating tapestries, etc., the most recent, and perhaps the most noticeable, is that known as Lustra Painting, introduced by BRAGDON & FENETTI. The effects of the painting simulate the tone of antique work, work that has had an opportunity of being softened and mellowed by time and the counterfeit presentment is most deceptive; another method of employing the paint gives an appearance of oxidized metal plates or scales. In fact the effect, whether of one character or another is always beautiful, and not only recommends itself to the worker because of its richness, but because it is an art easily acquired and rapidly executed.

Monogram Scarfs.—A simple and tasteful idea in scarfs for chairs, *tête-a-têtes* and odd stands, is to work the monogram in the center, with gold or silver thread, and finish with a Grecian or other border or fringe, according to taste.

Fire-places.—The latest styles of fire-place facings are of exquisitely wrought brass and enamel. Ornamental work in porcelain is added to give relief, and enhance the decorative effect.

The purity of vermilion may be ascertained by putting a little on a red hot iron. If pure, it will wholly evaporate; if impure, an earthy residue will be found remaining.

Opera Chairs.—In answer to inquiries we would say that the opera chairs mentioned on page 62 are manufactured by the HARWOOD CHAIR SEAT CO., Boston.

Mats and rugs for halls are of polar white bear, leopard and tiger skins mounted in black furs, the edges being extremely deep.

Curtain chains now have balls of ash, walnut, ebony or other wood at the ends.

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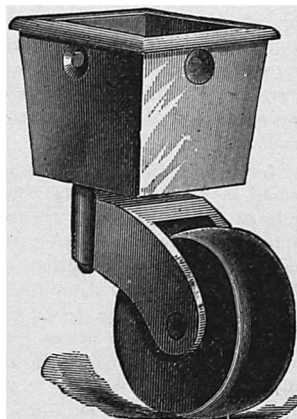
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In the States, arrangements with whom enable them to sell at our lowest prices. Special sizes and designs will be gotten up for the accommodation of our customers.

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